

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1056
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021**

MIGRANT WORKERS

1056. SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B.:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is concerned about the loss of employment particularly for the migrant workers across the country;**
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study to identify the number of workers who had lost their jobs due to Covid pandemic; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and all the remedial actions taken by the Government to provide assistance to the affected workers?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a) to (c): Ministry of Labour and Employment issued comprehensive Advisory Guidelines on 27th July, 2020 to all the States/UTs for Covid safety and welfare of the migrant workers returning to their workplaces in the destination states. States/UTs were requested to take adequate steps to stream line the Migration of the Workers and to implement the advisory guidelines by quickly gearing up their labour Law enforcement machinery and ensuring statutory compliances by all the stake holders which would provide Migrant Workers much needed help to mitigate the financial crisis and empower them to deal with the pandemic. The number of Migrant Workers who returned to their home State during lockdown is at Annexure. The global spread of the corona virus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. Government has taken several steps to ensure that the country is well prepared to face the challenges and threats posed by Covid-19. The details of the remedial measures taken by the Government to provide assistance to the effected workers are as under:

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- 1. In order to resolve the grievances of workers including migrant workers during lockdown, Ministry of Labour and Employment set up 20 Control Rooms all over the country. During lockdown, more than 15000 complaints of the workers were resolved through these Control Rooms and due to the intervention of Ministry more than two lakh workers were paid their due wages amounting to about Rs. 295 crores.**
- 2. Various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Labour and Employment as part of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana(PMGKY) and Atmanirbhar Bharat which, interalia, include (i) payment of 12% employers' share and 12% employees' share under Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% by the Government of India for six wage months from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having up to 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs.15,000 monthly wage; (ii) reduction in PF contribution from 12% to 10% of wages for the wage months of May, June and July, 2020; (iii) non-refundable Covid advance from the PF by amending the EPF Scheme, 1952; (iv) extension in the date of filing of returns; (v) issuing advisory to promptly attend to distress calls of workers/employees and also guide them in temporary shelters; and (vi) for taking preventive measures to contain the spread of Covid – 19.**
- 3. Approximately 80 crore beneficiaries have been provided additional 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses, free of cost every month till November, 2020 under provisions of National Food Security Act.**
- 4. In response to the Government of India's directions, the State Welfare Boards have cumulatively disbursed around Rs.5000 crore, to approx. 1.83 crore Building and Other Construction (BOC) Workers during lockdown and thereafter. In addition to this, around 30 lakh BOC workers were also provided food relief packages.**
- 5. Further, in order to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers, returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20th June 2020. The Abhiyaan focussed on durable rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages. Skill Mapping of the rural migrant labour was also done to enhance their employability on the basis of the skills, they possess, to enable them work closer to their homes. The Abhiyaan involves intensified and focused implementation of 25 target driven works to provide employment and create**

infrastructure in the rural areas of 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of Rs 50,000 crore. The Abhiyaan has already generated 50,78,68,671 man-days.

6. For the benefit of 50 lakh street vendors, Government of India has also launched SVANidhi Scheme to provide them collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- to resume their lost livelihood due to Covid and lock-down.

7. To provide employment to the migrant workers Ministry of Transport and Highways has identified the ongoing works/new works for the road construction.

8. In rural areas, wages under MGNREGA have been enhanced from Rs.182 to Rs.202 per day for the benefit of rural workers including returning migrant workers.

9. Ministry of Food Processing Industries have sanctioned 700 food processing/preservation and infrastructure projects in which migrant labourers can be employed.

10. Financial package of Rupees Twenty Seven lakh crore (aprox) under “Aatm Nirbhar Bharat” has been launched specifically to inter-alia create employment opportunities, for migrant workers, workers of unorganized sector, strengthening of MSME Sector and promoting rural economy. It includes several initiatives for all these sectors.

11. Ministry of Labour & Employment has taken the decision to extend the scheme of Atal Beemit Kalyan Yojna for another one year i.e. from 1st July, 2020 to 30 th June, 2021. It has also been decided to enhance the rate of unemployment relief under the scheme to 50% of wages from earlier rate of 25% along with relaxation of eligibility conditions for insured workers who have lost their employment due to COVID-19 pandemic and related lockdown.

Annexure**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1056 for 08.02.2021 regarding Migrant Workers**

SL No	Name of the State	No. of Migrant workers belonging to this State who have returned to their home State *
1	Andhra Pradesh	32,571
2	Andaman and Nicobar	4,960
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2,871
4	Assam	4,26,441
5	Bihar	15,00,612
6	Chandigarh	39230
7	Chhattisgarh	526900
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	43,747
9	Delhi	2,047
10	Goa	85620
11	Gujarat	0
12	Haryana	1,289
13	Himachal Pradesh	18,652
14	Jammu & Kashmir	48,780
15	Jharkhand	5,30,047
16	Karnataka	1,34,438
17	Kerala	3,11,124
18	Ladakh	50
19	Lakshadweep	456
20	Madhya Pradesh	7,53,581
21	Maharashtra	1,82,990
22	Manipur	12,338
23	Meghalaya	4,266
24	Mizoram	8446
25	Nagaland	11,750
26	Odisha	853,777
27	Puducherry	1,694
28	Punjab	5,15,642
29	Rajasthan	13,08,130
30	Sikkim	33,015
31	Tamil Nadu	72,145
32	Telangana	37,050
33	Tripura	34,247
34	Uttar Pradesh	32,49,638
35	Uttarakhand	1,97,128
36	West Bengal	13,84,693
	Total	1,14,30,968

* As per the data received from the States/UTs till date.
